

Student Conservation Association

SCA's Mission:

to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.

- Nation's leading provider of conservation service opportunities
- Assisting natural and cultural resource managers since 1957
- Highly skilled & motivated graduate, college and high school participants

SCA's Partners



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



- **Federal:** BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS, USFS, USGS
- **DoD:** Air Force, Army, Army Corps of Engineers, Marine Corps, Navy
- Many State and Local Agencies
- Non Profit Organizations



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Partnership with SCA

- Can use services of the Student Conservation Association (SCA) through an existing cooperative agreement with the Department of the Army. No additional agreement necessary.
- Partners with SCA through a cost-share agreement.
- Funds transferred to SCA through an agreement with the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) at Fort Detrick, MD.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / SCA Partnerships

FY 2003–2010



US Army Corps

What does SCA do?

Individual Interns

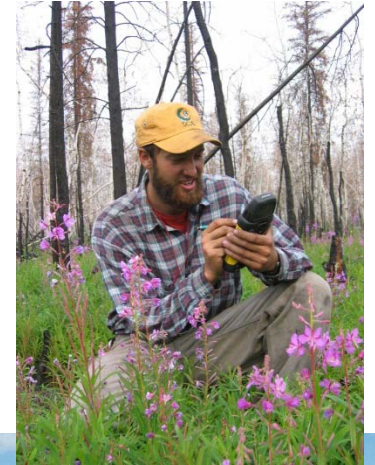
- Over 50 disciplines
- Specializations include GIS/GPS and Exotic Plant Management

Team Based Interns

- Initiatives include: Fire, Watershed Monitoring, Exotic Plant Management, boundary survey

High School Crews

- Trail Work
- Revegetation and site restoration
- Riparian zone and stream restoration
- Wildlife, fisheries habitat improvement



SCA members mapping noxious weeds.

SCA Conservation Interns:



- Are nationally recruited, highly qualified and motivated
- Serve from 12 weeks to 12 months/start anytime
- Fill natural and cultural resource management needs, visitor services, EE, and more
- Extremely cost-effective

SCA Provides:

- Recruitment and applications of pre-qualified candidates
- Round-trip travel and living allowance
- Liability, accident and health*
- Comprehensive customer service support
- Intern AmeriCorps education awards (as available) at no cost to you

You Provide:

- Challenging internships that meet your needs
- Supervision and training appropriate to the position
- Intern housing/cost of accommodations
- On-the-job transportation
- Intern evaluation at project completion

Public Safety Intern

Provide educational outreach and interpretive programming, as part of a team, that encourages public safety.

- All aspects of recreation safety on USACE lands and waters to include water, boating, bicycling, hiking, camping, and hunting.
- Focus on water and boating safety for all ages.
- Duties include: developing outreach material; updating bulletin boards; maintaining life jacket loaner stations; organizing events; conducting campfire talks, hikes, and tours; and interacting with park visitors.
- Intern may be used for search and rescue and as a second (safety) person for boat patrols made by park rangers.

Recruiting

Nationwide Recruiting

- Word of Mouth
 - 50+ year network
 - Active Alumni Network
- Recruiting Interns
 - Connecting to their audience
220 visits each year
- Recruiting for Specific Disciplines
- Established University Contacts:
23,000 to date
- Highly Visited Website
- Web-based Admissions
- Searchable Database of Positions



Cornell University



THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS



Getting Started: Two Simple Steps

1. Complete and return SCA online Conservation Intern Request Form
2. Review applications/conduct interviews/notify SCA of your selection

OR

Delegate selection to SCA

FY 2012 Cost Share Estimate

- One **12-week** Intern: \$4,160
- One **6-month** Intern: \$13,740
- One **9-month** Intern: \$18,845
- One **12-month** Intern: \$23,230



Cost Benefit Information of CRNVSA SCA Program

- Current cost of the two interns for one year is \$44,000 (housing is not factored in)
- Alternate cost of two full time employees or contracted consultant (\$60,000 each) with 50% overhead is \$180,000
- Cost benefit for every dollar spent is 1:4
- Other intangible benefits are 24/7 presences of Corps personnel at the facility. The addition of two skilled personnel/interns to provide focus and emphasis toward successful management of the CRNVS and supportive GIS services for the New England District.

Some statistics from the Upper Connecticut River Basin in 2007

- 10 Interns -- average of 60 hours/week for 162 weeks (9720 hours) cost \$70,168
- GS-04/05 equivalent -- average of 40 hours/week for 243 weeks (9720 hours) cost \$560,844



Costs vs SCEP Program



SCA

- 16 weeks of work
- \$ 6,364



SCEP

- 16 weeks of work
- \$ 18,598

Other Highlights

1) COST BREAKDOWN (Total = \$6,364)

- Subsistence = \$1080
- Transportation = \$580
- Housing = \$1710
- Clothing/Evaluation = 175
- Recruiting = \$606
- Program Support = \$808
- Administration = \$1404

2) HOUSING ARRANGED LOCALLY BY CORPS

3) GENERALLY HAVE THE SAME CAPABILITIES AS SCEP STUDENTS

4) FEWER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (FOCUS IS ON SAFETY)

5) NO CAC CARD NEEDED – BUT CAN STILL GET NETWORK ACCESS

6) TAPES NOT REQUIRED – But less formal performance objectives and evaluations are still a good idea

7) PRE-SCREENED, HIGH QUALITY APPLICANTS

8) SCA COULD BE USED AS FEEDER PROGRAM FOR SCEP



How to Pay For SCA Interns Crews & Teams

- SCA submits cost estimate for requested intern(s)/crew(s)/team(s) to you for approval. Housing can be included in cost quote.
- USAMRAA Fort Detrick receives approved cost estimate from SCA. You prepare and submit MIPR to USAMRAA Fort Detrick & USACE Millington (TN) Finance Center.
- Fort Detrick issues task order.
- Process done electronically.

Natural Resources Management Gateway

to the future . . .

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The SCA Mission: To build the next generation of conservation service leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.

Since 1957, SCA has served as a source for motivated full-time interns and adult led high school conservation crews to assist with natural and cultural resource management tasks. SCA annually fields thousands of these interns who perform more than 1,600,000 hours of valuable conservation service. Partner agencies and organizations utilize Conservation Interns and Conservation Crews to supplement their staff to accomplish work which they would otherwise find difficult to do with existing resources.

The Army Corps of Engineers has received authorization through Section 213 (a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to enter into cooperative agreements with non-Federal public and nonprofit entities for services relating to natural resources conservation or recreation management at Corps Civil Work projects. Through an existing cooperative agreement with the Department of the Army, the Army Corps can now use the services of SCA.

- [SCA Website](#)
- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [Introduction to SCA](#)
- [SCA at a Glance](#)
- [SCA Invasive Species Program](#)
- [USACE Partnership with SCA](#)
- [Overview USACE/SCA Partnerships 2003 – 2009](#)
- [SCA Points of Contact](#)
- [Cost Share Estimate](#)
- [How to fund SCA Conservation Interns/Crews through a MIPR Process](#)
- [Agreement](#)
- [News & Current Events](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [References](#)
- [Testimonials](#)
- [Crew Projects](#)
- [Profile of an SCA Intern](#)
- [SCA GIS Interns & Corps](#)
- [Current Internships](#)



The Student Conservation Association

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For More Information Visit

USACE NRM Gateway:

<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/sca/sca.html>

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